

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: EXCHANGE OF TOASTS AT LUNCHEON MARCH 27

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE EXCHANGE OF TOASTS WHICH TOOK PLACE
AT A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY THE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN MINISTER
GROMYKO AT SPASO HOUSE MARCH 27. THE TEXTS HAVE BEEN RELEASED
TO THE PRESS.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF THE SECRETARY'S TOAST:

MR. FOREIGN MINISTER, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS:

ON BEHALF OF ALL OF MY COLLEAGUES, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK
YOU FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY HOSPITALITY WE HAVE RECEIVED HERE.

THE LAST TIME I WAS IN THIS HOUSE WAS THE EVENING AT WHICH THE
STRATEGIC ARMS AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED. THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND
I NEGOTIATED THROUGH THE BETTER PART OF THE NIGHT AND THEN WE
ASSEMBLED AGAIN IN THE MORNING AND CAME TO A CONCLUSION, AND
BY THAT EVENING THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED. IT WAS A VERY
MOMENTOUS OCCASION BECAUSE IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE TWO
GREATEST COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD, THE TWO MOST POWERFUL
COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD ACCEPTED VOLUNTARY RESTRICTIONS. IT
WAS IMPORTANT ALSO BECAUSE IT SYMBOLIZED THAT THE UNITED
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STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION HAVE GREAT RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD

PRESERVING THE PEACE OF THE WORLD. THEY EXERCISE THIS RESPONSIBILITY IN WHAT THEY DO TOWARDS EACH OTHER AND THEY EXERCISE IT IN RELATION TO OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD AS WELL. SINCE WE HAVE STARTED ON THIS COURSE, IT HAS BEEN A FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY TO BRING ABOUT A SITUATION IN WHICH THE TWO COUNTRIES CAN BE MORE SECURE WITH EACH OTHER AND IN WHICH THEY CAN USE THEIR INFLUENCE TO HELP BRING PEACE TO OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD AS WELL. THIS PRINCIPLE HAS AGAIN BEEN CONFIRMED IN OUR MEETINGS HERE; AND AS WE PREPARE FOR THE SUMMIT OF THIS YEAR, WE HOPE TO MAKE MORE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS BY WHATEVER CONCRETE AGREEMENTS CAN BE REACHED. THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL AGREEMENT OF ALL, WHICH IS NOT WRITTEN DOWN, IS THAT THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION ARE COMMITTED TO A CONSTANT IMPROVEMENT OF THEIR RELATIONS. THEY WILL STRIVE TO MAINTAIN IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD A POLICY OF COOPERATION EVEN IF TEMPORARY OBSTACLES MIGHT ARISE. THIS WILL BE THE GOAL OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY, AND THE FREQUENCY OF OUR MEETINGS TESTIFIES TO THE FACT IT IS ALSO THE GOAL OF SOVIET POLICY.

SO IT IS TO THIS SPIRIT THAT I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE A TOAST TO YOU, MR. FOREIGN MINISTER, AND ALL YOUR ASSOCIATES, AND TO THE STRENGTHENING OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION.

END TEXT.

3. BEGIN TEXT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S TOAST:

MR. SECRETARY OF STATE, GENTLEMEN, COMRADES:

WE WISH TO THANK YOU FIRST OF ALL FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY. MANY IMPORTANT THINGS HAVE INDEED BEEN ACHIEVED IN SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS. FIRST AND FOREMOST, THEY HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED AS A RESULT OF THE TWO SOVIET-AMERICAN SUMMIT MEETINGS, DURING THE VISIT TO THE CAPITAL OF THIS COUNTRY OF U.S. PRESIDENT MIXON, AND DURING THE VISIT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION BREZHNEV TO THE UNITED STATES. THE AGREEMENTS THEN CONCLUDED ARE OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE, BOTH FOR OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND FOR THE CAUSE OF WORLD PEACE. THUS WE CAN SAY THAT A TRULY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOLID FOUNDATION, A TRULY STRONG FOUNDATION HAS BEEN CREATED FOR FURTHER MOVEMENT AHEAD TOWARDS THE DEEPENING, THE BROADENING, AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

THE TASK NOW IS, AND I AM HAPPY TO SAY THAT BOTH YOU AND WE ARE IN AGREEMENT OF THIS, TO USE THESE ACHIEVEMENTS AND THIS STRONG FOUNDATION FOR FURTHER STEPS TOWARDS THE STILL GREATER IMPROVEMENT OF THOSE RELATIONSHIPS. THIS IS THE GOAL THAT MUST

BE SERVED BY THE FORTHCOMING SOVIET-AMERICAN SUMMIT MEETING.
IT IS THIS GOAL, TOO, THAT MUST BE SERVED BY THIS PRESENT
MEETING DURING YOUR VISIT TO MOSCOW.

WHAT WE WANTED TO SEE IN RESULTS FROM THIS MEETING INSOFAR
AS THE SOVIET SIDE IS CONCERNED, WAS CLEARLY DEFINED BY GENERAL
SECRETARY BREZHNEV DURING HIS FIRST MEETING WITH YOU, AND THAT
IS SUCCESS. A SUCCESS THAT WILL BE OF BENEFIT TO OUR TWO
PEOPLES AND TO WORLD PEACE. THE PROBLEMS FACING THE PARTICIPANTS
IN THESE EXCHANGES OF VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT, AND AT THE SAME TIME
COMPLEX. WE CAN FIRMLY SAY FOR OURSELVES, AND THIS IS SOMETHING
THAT YOU HAVE HEARD UTTERED BY GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV,
WE ARE IN FAVOR OF THAT. WE ARE IN FAVOR OF SUCH RESULTS.
WE VALUE ESPECIALLY THE WORDS YOU UTTERED JUST NOW TO THE
EFFECT THAT YOU ARE FIRMLY COMMITTED TO THAT LINE. AND THAT IS
OUR LINE, TOO, IN SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS. IT IS THE LINE OF
OUR COUNTRY, OUR PEOPLE, OUR PARTY, THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND
ITS POLITBURO, AND PERSONALLY THE LINE OF GENERAL SECRETARY
BREZHNEV. WE FEEL THAT THE FURTHER STEPS THAT WE CAN TAKE AND
THE FURTHER EFFORTS WE CAN MAKE WILL DEPEND ON THAT JOINT
DETERMINATION OF BOTH OUR SIDES, AS HAS INDEED BEEN STATED BY
BOTH OF US. FOR, INDEED, A TUNNEL HAS TO BE BUILT FROM BOTH
ENDS. AND THAT IS TRUE NOT ONLY IN TUNNEL BUILDING. IT IS
TRUE IN POLITICS, TOO. IT WOULD BE GOOD, VERY GOOD INDEED,
IF THIS NEW MEETING COULD CULMINATE IN GOOD, OR BETTER STILL,
IN EXCELLENT RESULTS. WE COULD THEN TRANSFER ALL THESE
RESULTS INTO GUARANTEES OF SUCCESS FOR ALL SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS.

MAY I PROPOSE A TOAST TO OUR FURTHER GOOD RELATIONS AND THEIR
DEVELOPMENT, TO THE SUCCESS AND THE GOOD RESULTS OF THIS
MEETING, AND, LOOKING AHEAD, MAY I ALSO DRINK TO THE RESULTS
OF THE FORTHCOMING SUMMIT MEETING BECAUSE THIS IS INDEED WHAT
WE WANT TO SEE.

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TO YOUR HEALTH, MR. SECRETARY OF STATE, AND TO THE HEALTH
OF THE OTHER AMERICANS PRESENT.

I ASK YOU ALL TO RAISE YOUR GLASSES.

END TEXT.
KISSINGER

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